TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 17, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 12 totaled an estimated 17.8 billion ton-miles, 1.6 percent above the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 41 weeks of 1985 was an estimated 697.9 billion ton-miles, down 5.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 12 totaled 392,432, up 3.0 percent from last year, but 0.1 percent lower than the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 21.1 percent in the East, and 1.1 percent in the South, but down 5.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 16 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased, but coal loadings were up by 22,832 cars (23.3 percent) and motor vehicles and equipment showed a gain of 2,411 cars (11.9 percent). Ten of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 5 totaled 96,498 trailers and/or containers, 0.1 percent below the corresponding week of 1984.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 40 weeks of the year was 3,451,714 trailers and/or containers, down 1.9 percent from 1984.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/12/85:

	Loadings in Week ended October 12, 1985		Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	22,883	D	1,101	4.6	I	1,793	8.5
Other farm products	3,957	D	418	9.6	I	266	7.2
Metallic ores	12,869	D	7,537	36.9	I	2,124	19.8
Coal	120,772	I	22,832	23.3	I	2,820	2.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,177	I	457	3.3	I	576	4.2
Nonmetallic minerals	11,202	D	271	2.4	D	1,562	12.2
Grain mill products	10,392	D	39	0.4	D	544	5.0
Food and kindred products	10,936	D	193	1.7	D	344	3.0
Primary forest products	10,980	D	1,956	15.1	I	384	3.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,496	D	530	7.5	D	367	5.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,390	D	1,154	7.9	D	706	5.0
Chemicals and allied products	23,203	D	1,258	5.1	D	1,706	6.8
Petroleum products	4,757	D	117	2.4	I	54	1.1
Stone, clay and glass products	10,810	D	612	5.4	I	296	2.8
Coke	4,411	D	935	17.5	D	321	6.8
Metals and products	7,566	D	392	4.9	D	1,297	14.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,668	I	2,411	11.9	D	358	1.6
Waste and scrap materials	9,168	D	40	0.4	I	161	1.8
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,816	D	1,116	14.1	D	232	3.3
All other carloads	64,781	I	3,536	5.8	D	1,663	2.5
LCL traffic	198	I	19	10.6	I	37	23.0
Total Cars Loaded	392,432	I	11,586	3.0	D	589	0.1
Corresponding week of 1984	380,846						

	1985	1984	% Change	
Total Cars Loaded (41 weeks)	15,367,211	16,295,338	D	5.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
40 Weeks ended October 5	680.1	718.1	D	5.3
Week ended October 12	17.8	17.5	I	1.6
41 weeks cumulative	697.9	735.6	D	5.1

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